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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/909,519	07/20/2001	Lee A. Hollaar	1169.1 P	1725

7590 09/24/2003  
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EXAMINER

COBY, FRANTZ

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2171

DATE MAILED: 09/24/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/909,519

Applicant(s)

HOLLAAR ET AL.

Examiner

Frantz Coby

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 July 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 1.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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This is in response to application filed on July 29, 2001 in which claims 1-18 are presented for examination.

***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The information disclosure statement filed on July 20, 2001 is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97, 1.98 and MPEP § 609. It has been placed in the application file and the information referred to therein has been considered as to the merits.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

2. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Amann et al. "Querying Typed Hypertexts in Multicard/O2", ECHT '94 Proceedings, 1994 ACM, Pages 198-205.

As per claim 1, Amann et al. disclose "a method operating on a digital computer system" as a Hypertext system (See Amann et al. page 198). In particular, Amann et al. disclose the claimed features of "displaying a reference document containing a quotation of a passage from a source document to permit the selection of the quotation by a user"; "retrieving the source document containing the passage quoted in the quotation selected by the user"; "locating the quoted passage in the source document, where the highlighting of the quoted passage is based on

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the result of the location step and not highlighting previously in the source document” (See Amann et al. Figure 4, Section 4, Pages 201-204).

As per claim 2, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claim 1. Applicant’s attention is directed to the rejection of claim 1 above. In addition, Amann et al. disclose the claimed feature of “a digital computer programmed to perform the method of claim 1” as a Hypertext application (See Amann et al. page 204).

As per claim 3, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claim 1. Applicant’s attention is directed to the rejection of claim 1 above. In addition, Amann et al. disclose the claimed feature of “a computer readable medium storing a computer program implementing the method of claim 1” as nodes or documents for storing data which are connected by links (See Amann et al. page 198).

As per claim 4, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claim 1. Applicant’s attention is directed to the rejection of claim 1 above. In addition, Amann et al. disclose the claimed feature of “wherein the locating step utilizes an approximate matching technique to locate the quoted passage” as a query language (See Amann et al. pages 198-199).

As per claim 5, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claim 4. Applicant’s attention is directed to the rejection of claim 4 above. In addition, Amann

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et al. disclose the claimed feature of “a digital computer programmed to perform the method of claim 1” as a Hypertext application (See Amann et al. page 204).

As per claim 6, most of the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claim 4. Applicant’s attention is directed to the rejection of claim 4 above. In addition, Amann et al. disclose the claimed feature of “a computer readable medium storing a computer program implementing the method of claim 1” as nodes or documents for storing data which are connected by links (See Amann et al. page 198).

As per claims 7-12, most of the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claims 1-6. Applicant’s attention is directed to the rejection of claims 1-6 above. In addition, Amann et al. achieve the claimed feature of “displaying a source document indicating any differences between the quotation and the quoted message” (See Amann et al. Figures 4-5).

As per claims 13-18, most of the limitations of this claim have been noted in the rejection of claims 1-6. Applicant’s attention is directed to the rejection of claims 7-12 above. In addition, Amann et al. achieve the claimed feature of “using one highlighting mode to highlight portions of the quoted passage that are contained in the selected quotation, and using another highlighting mode to display portions of the quotation that are not in the quoted passage ” (See Amann Page 201).

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3. Claims 1, 7 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Osterbye et al. "An Interaction Engine for Rich Hypertexts", ECHT '94 Proceedings, 1994 ACM, Pages 167-176.

As per claims 1, 7 and 13 Osterbye et al. disclose the claimed features of "displaying a reference document containing a quotation of a passage from a source document to permit the selection of the quotation by a user"; "retrieving the source document containing the passage quoted in the quotation selected by the user"; "locating the quoted passage in the source document, where the highlighting of the quoted passage is based on the result of the location step and not highlighting previously in the source document" (See Osterbye et al. Figures 2-5, Section 2, Pages 168-173.

***Conclusion***

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

Commissioner of Patents and trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

(703) 305-9051, (for formal communications  
intended for entry)

**Or:**

(703) 308-5357 (for informal of draft  
communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2021 Crystal Drive, Arlington. VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

**I. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frantz Coby whose telephone number is (703) 305-4006. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.**

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**II. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Safet Metjahic, can be reached on (703) 308-14367. The Fax phone number for this Group is (703) 746-7238; (703) 746-7239; (703) 746-7240.**

  
**FRANTZ COBY**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

*Technology Center 2171*  
September 16, 2003